

**Westport School Committee
Regular Meeting
DATE: Thursday, May 6, 2021
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Virtual Meeting**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87935331546?pwd=dWxSdDNPMWR1cWJ3NTU2b2NoTEFjQT09>
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Webinar ID: 879 3533 1546
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MINUTES

Members Present: Melissa Pacheco, Nancy Stanton Cross, Nancy Tavares

Members Absent: Michelle Orlando, Antonio Viveiros

Also Present: Kevin Aguiar JRSRHS Assistant Principal, Thomas Aubin Interim Superintendent, Laura Charette JRSRHS Assistant Principal, Jennifer Chaves Extended Day Director, Stacey Duquette WES Principal, Darren Elwell Director of Curriculum, Kristin Mc Daniel HR Coordinator, Kerri McKinnon Interim Assistant Superintendent / WJSHS Principal, Michelle Rapoza School Business Manager, Elaine Santos Special Education Director, Tyler Simonin Student Representative, Anthony Tomah Director Technology, 16 Community Participants

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance - Chair Tavares opened the Virtual School Committee at 6:30 pm., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Chair Tavares announced:

This meeting is being held remotely in accordance with the Governor of Massachusetts' March 12, 2020 order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c.30A, Section 20

Comments and Statements from the Public - There were none.

III. Informational Agenda

A. Student Representative: Tyler Simonin reported there are about 2 weeks left, Fall 2 sports concluded this past weekend, both JV and Varsity teams were undefeated this season, Spring sports try outs are Monday and continue today with the first game on May18, AP testing is underway, MCAS testing is next week.

B. Superintendent Report - Superintendent Aubin requested to combine his report with the with end of year student events.

C. WCS Bill Warrant: 5-7-21 - Chair Tavares acknowledged that Mr. Viveiros signed the bill warrant dated 5-7-21 in the amount of \$233,753.41. The bill warrant was emailed to school committee members for review.

D. Acknowledgement of the Donation of Translation Time (\$1335.96) Due to COVID19 by Ms. Cristina Bernal - Chair Tavares thanked Ms. Bernal for her generous donation to the district. Mr. Elwell shared translation is an unfunded mandate. Ms. Bernal is the district's translator who has chosen to donate the time for her services.

E. Acknowledgement of a Donation of \$750 from Bay Coast Bank for the Westport High School Senior Dinner - Ms. McKinnon shared that Ms. Leslie Ruel organizes the annual dinner and donations.

F. Discussion of School Committee 2021-2022 Meeting Dates - Mr. Aubin verified with MASC that School Committee Meetings can consist of blended meetings with both in person and remote connections for the members in attendance. Discussion took place about this option and how it can be convenient to

handle members that travel or have other commitments. It was agreed to pilot this option for the first meeting in August 2021. There will be no meeting in July except for the end of year meeting on July 8 at 7:30 am.

G. COVID Update - Mr. Aubin reported the numbers including remote students and students in school for the past week are MAC 28, WES 42, JRSRHS 24, staff 23. These figures are since September 2020. Mr. Aubin clarified the state's recording of cases do not count students that were not in school. Credit was given to the staff for their outstanding job and to the whole school community.

Ms. Stanton Cross requested to have the numbers broken down to show how many were in person vs. remote. Mr. Aubin will have these numbers for the next meeting.

Chair Tavares asked since the guidance has changed on the protocols for reporting and quarantining is the district doing things differently? Mr. Aubin reported the district has remained the same and being consistent throughout. Nursing and the BOH are doing the reporting. HEPA purifiers will be repurposed in the new school for next year.

H. End of Year Student Events - Superintendent Aubin reported this week was Teacher Appreciation Week, however he noted there were also events such as National Nurses Day, Custodians Day, Daycare Workers Day, School Lunch Heroes Day, etc. The school district worked with the WEF and PTO to provide lunch for staff at MAC, WES, and JRSRHS.

Mr. Aubin informed everyone at the start of the pandemic the district has been following the science to deal with this Corona virus. The proof of success has been the fact that the students have been in school since September 2020. They are in the process of doing assessment testing to identify any student learning loss and will be adjusting for the summer. They are keeping parents informed as best as possible.

On April 1, DESE issued prom guidance that stated not to hold a prom until after Graduation. A prom was planned, however based on DESE's recommendation Mr. Aubin made the decision to cancel the event.

There is a robust schedule of events planned:

Ms. McKinnon- Senior Dinner May 27, Senior Formal Celebration at Rachel's June 4, Senior Breakfast June 11, Graduation June 12.

Ms. Charette - Transition meetings for students heading to WES, to include in person learners and live streaming for remote learners, Dave and Buster's Field Trip June 14, Grade 8 Promotion Parade, Grade 8 slideshow and outdoor movie with snacks June 16, 6 pm.

Ms. Duquette - Progress notes are distributed tomorrow, IReady testing May 17 - June 2, MCAS testing May 17- 24 ELA, Math and 5th grade Science with remote learners participating, Field Days scheduled with rain dates. Student leaders are making a video to help MAC students transition to WES. There will be class celebrations and a video tape with final 6th grade goodbyes.

MAC - Mr. Aubin reported there will be events held for each grade level.

Mr. Elwell - Summer programming for grades K-12 will have free breakfast and lunch all summer.

Summer School held at current JRSRHS from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

June 21 - July 12 Monday - Friday Grades 7-12

June 28 - July 29 Monday - Thursday MAC and WES PreK - 6

2-week Art Camp for grades 7-12 run by Ms. Lambert from July 19-23 week 1 Photography, week 2 Sculpture from July 26 - 30.

Summer Athletics June - August Volleyball, Wrestling, Self Defense, Fitness, Baseball, Infinite Fitness and Sports Performance. Registration process is being finalized. They are also looking to include Performing Arts and Drama.

Mr. Aubin reported for Ms. Chaves the Extended Day has 60 children enrolled and the program will run from June 24 -August 20.

Ms. McDaniel is working on the school district restructuring of schools.

A news release was issued concerning the district's recent experience with spotty internet and phone service which has made learning remotely a challenge. Mr. Tomah was available for questions, however there were none at this time

Ms. Stanton Cross stated for the record that she does not agree with the decision to cancel the prom and 8th grade dance.

I. Summer Programs - Reported above.

J. Subcommittee Updates -

SBC held a meeting on April 21, 2021. SBC Steering Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, May 11.

A suggestion was made to request access to be able to walk through the new building at a fixed time. Finding out the drop date for completion and being able to access the building is vital. Informing parents as soon as possible is important. Mr. Aubin reported the date he has right now for substantial completion of the new school is August 2. September 1 and 2 will be convocation, students begin September 8. Planning 2 days of technology training for staff.

Policy Subcommittee has not held a meeting.

VI. Action Agenda

A. Review and Act on Minutes of Thursday, April 15, 2021 -

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of Thursday, April 15, 2021.

Motion by Stanton Cross, seconded by Pacheco

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V. **Routine Matters** - Correspondence and Notices - There were none.

VII. Topics the Chair could not Reasonably Anticipate Forty-eight (48) Hours in Advance of the Meeting - Ms. Stanton Cross has received parent emails questioning the implementation of a 5 day per week PreK program. There is a strong parental need. The district should consider this with possibly doing a survey. Ms. Santos explained the student body ratio. They are looking into the program for 3 and 4-year old's. Substantially separate program is the present 5-day program.

Ms. Pacheco mentioned discussing strategies to help with traffic issues for the present and the future. Mr. Aubin mentioned they are exploring with infrastructure, particularly at dismissal time.

Ms. Pacheco mentioned the district should be striving to offer the healthiest nutritious meals. Mr. Aubin said there were recent changes to the federal guidelines. Ms. Rapoza sent out a survey to students to see what they want and will be looking at costs, staffing and equipment. They will be having a chef training in August.

VIII. Adjourn - A motion was made to adjourn. With members being present and voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

Motion by Stanton Cross, seconded by Pacheco

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Roll call vote: Pacheco Yes Stanton Cross Yes Tavares Yes

The Virtual School Committee Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

MEETING DOCUMENTS

Acknowledgement Donation of Translation Time (\$1335.96) Due to COVID19 by Ms. Cristina Bernal
Acknowledgement Donation of \$750 from Bay Coast Bank for the Westport High School Senior Dinner
School Committee 2021-2022 Meeting Dates
End of Year Student Events
Summer Programs